

LEGISLATIVE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8 • FEBRUARY 22-26, 2021



WEEK 6 OF THE 2021 GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The final days of the session are quickly approaching! We began the session with 4 policy priorities and are making great progress in each area:

- Broaden Economic Success
- Build a Connected Future
- Extend Opportunity to All
- Balance Emergency Powers

To learn more about the 2021 House Majority Policy Priorities, click [here](#).

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Representatives

Putting Money Back Into the Hands of Deserving Utahns

The Utah State Legislature presented legislation that will provide approximately \$100 million in tax relief to Utah citizens.

Though Utah's economy is in an advantageous position compared to other states, many Utahns are struggling and lawmakers want to provide tax relief where it will make the biggest difference. Three bills, [S.B. 153](#), [S.B. 11](#), and [H.B. 86](#), target families, veterans, and elderly citizens and will further boost Utah's economic success.



(Image from Deseret News)



"Our goal must always be to collect the smallest amount of tax that still allows the state to provide necessary services and prepare for future needs," said Speaker Brad Wilson. "This year, we are able to deliver a \$100 million tax cut, targeted to three groups who will most benefit from it: families, veterans, and seniors. Utah's economy is primed for expansion and putting more money in the hands of the people is an important element of our ongoing prosperity."

Senator Mitt Romney

This week, we had the opportunity to visit with Senator Mitt Romney.

He joined the House Majority Caucus over Zoom and shared updates from the U.S. Senate in Washington D.C. and his plans for upcoming legislation.



VACCINE UPDATE

In coordination with local health departments, government entities, and the Utah Department of Health, Gov. Spencer J. Cox has issued an Executive Order updating the state's COVID-19 vaccination plan and stating vaccine eligibility criteria. View the full executive order [here](#) and learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine [here](#).

Vaccines are now available for:

- Healthcare workers
- Long-term care facility staff and residents
- First responders
- Ages 65 and older
- K-12 teachers and school staff
- Ages 16 and older with certain underlying medical conditions ([list of medical conditions](#))

Executive Appropriation Committee Recommends Historic Utah State Budget

The Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) finalized recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget. The recommendations include increased funding for education, healthcare, housing, infrastructure and transportation, and a significant tax cut.

“What’s happening in Utah is remarkable, especially compared to the rest of the county,” said Speaker Brad Wilson. “Coming out of a pandemic, we will set new funding records for education, address our affordable housing crisis, and provide resources to address homelessness all while providing tax cuts for seniors, veterans, and families. We faced difficult decisions but I feel very good about the budget our process has produced.”

Read the full press release [here](#).

Policy Highlights:

Local Government Building Regulation Amendments

HB 98 “Local Government Building Regulation Amendments” passed the House this week and helps to address housing affordability.

State Agency Realignment

HB 365 “State Agency Realignment” passed the House this week and combines the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services into a single agency.

Grow Your Own Teacher and School Counselor Pipeline Program

HB 381 creates a grant program for Utah paraprofessionals, school counselor assistants, and school counselor interns to assist individuals in their training to become licensed teachers or school counselors.

"FRESHMAN" HIGHLIGHT REPRESENTATIVE RYAN WILCOX

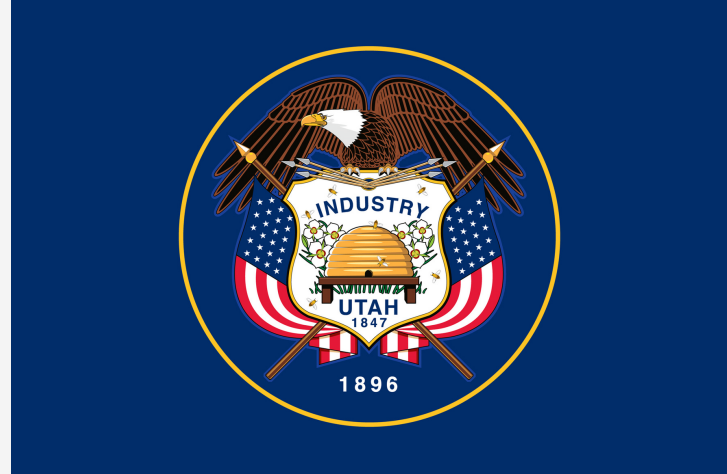
Representative Wilcox was raised on a dairy farm in Weber County and graduated from both Weber High and Weber State University. He has deep roots in his community and is a proud husband and father to five children. He previously served as a member of the Utah House of Representatives from 2009-2014 and has recently returned to service, representing District 7 in northern Weber County.



Prior to his return to the house, he assisted U.S. Senator Mike Lee as a Senior Policy Advisor and Northern Utah Director, and has extensive experience in the telecom, public policy, natural resource, and healthcare sectors. Representative Wilcox is most passionate about representing his community and protecting the basic liberties delineated in the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights.

Concurrent Resolution Honoring the 125th Anniversary of the First Utah Legislative Session

On January 4, 1896, Utah became the 45th state to be admitted to the union. A few days later, on January 7, the first legislative session convened. The first legislature was made up of 18 members in the Senate and 45 members in the House and was tasked with designing a new community and government. Read HCR 16 [here](#).



This Week's Podcast



Why is Utah in such a healthy fiscal state? Representative Moss explains how Utah's foresight put us in a position to issue a \$100 million tax cut this year when most states are scrapping for money. Listen to this week's podcast by clicking [here](#).

BILLS PASSED THIS WEEK

THIS WEEK THE HOUSE PASSED 65 BILLS. A TOTAL OF 369 BILLS THIS SESSION SO FAR. (AS OF THURSDAY AT 5 PM)

H.B. 76 Firearm Preemption Amendments
H.B. 77 Aviation Liability Insurance Amendments
H.B. 216 Firearms Amendments
H.B. 224 Pollinator Amendments
H.B. 227 Self Defense Amendments
H.B. 237 Lethal Force Amendments
H.B. 246 Ballot Measure Transparency Amendments
H.B. 256 County Land Use and Development Amendments
H.B. 257 Utah State Park Amendments
H.B. 271 Home Child Care Amendments
H.B. 285 Juvenile Recodification
H.B. 286 Juvenile Code Recodification Cross References
H.B. 290 Probation and Parole Amendments
H.B. 301 Domestic Violence Training Amendments
H.B. 308 Covid-19 Vaccine Amendments
H.B. 319 Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act Amendments
H.B. 320 Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Amendments
H.B. 321 Division of Consumer Protection Amendments
H.B. 324 Alimony Amendments
H.B. 326 Performance Reporting and Efficiency Requirements
H.B. 327 Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative
H.B. 332 Medicaid Fraud Control Unit Amendments
H.B. 333 Medicaid Amendments
H.B. 334 Special Needs Training for Law Enforcement Amendments
H.B. 335 Investment Fees Amendments
H.B. 337 Child Mental Health Amendments
H.B. 346 Natural Resources Entities Amendments
H.B. 347 Homeless Services Amendments
H.B. 350 Mental Health Records Confidentiality Amendments
H.B. 352 State Identification Amendments
H.B. 355 Workers' Compensation Revisions
H.B. 356 Rural Economic Development Tax Increment Financing
H.B. 358 Guardianship Amendments
H.B. 359 Dental Billing Amendments
H.B. 360 Telephone Solicitation Amendments
H.B. 369 School Bus Inspection Amendments

H.B. 371 Alcoholic Beverage Control Amendments
H.B. 373 Conviction Reduction Amendments
H.B. 388 State Energy Policy Amendments
H.C.R. 16 Concurrent Resolution Honoring the 125th Anniversary of the First Utah Legislative Session
H.C.R. 17 Concurrent Resolution Recognizing August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day
H.C.R. 18 Concurrent Resolution Supporting Extension and Expansion of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act
H.C.R. 19 Concurrent Resolution Recognizing Farmers Feeding Utah
H.J.R. 6 Joint Rules Resolution - Request for Appropriation
H.J.R. 7 Joint Resolution Amending Rules of Criminal Procedure on Motions
H.J.R. 11 Joint Rules Resolution - Executive Appropriations Committee
H.J.R. 12 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Special Session Appropriations
H.R. 5 House Rules Resolution -- Standing Committee Modifications
H.R. 6 House Rules Resolution -- Chamber Procedure
S.B. 33 Uniform Building Code Commission Amendments
S.B. 76 Controlled Substance Database Access
S.B. 79 Insurance Policy Notification Amendments
S.B. 85 Disinheritance Following Crimes Against Vulnerable Adults
S.B. 99 Child Welfare Amendments
S.B. 110 Tax Commission Appeal Amendments
S.B. 124 Parole Amendments
S.B. 126 Sentencing Commission Requirements
S.B. 133 Severance Tax Revenue Amendments
S.B. 135 Motor Vehicle Insurance Amendment
S.B. 136 Higher Education Scholarships Amendments
S.B. 145 Military Family Education Amendments
S.B. 152 Vehicle Load Penalties Amendments
S.B. 160 State Audit Amendments
S.B. 166 State Holiday Amendments
S.J.R. 10 Joint Resolution Commemorating the New Salt Lake City Airport